GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4002
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2017
Import of Edible Oil
Patel Shri Dilip

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of maximum and minimum import duties permitted in the rules laid down by the World Trade Organisation (WTO) with respect to the import of edible oils and the import duties being charged currently;
(b) whether the import of edible oils is increasing steadily due to the excessive rebate in their imports and if so, the details thereof along with the other reasons therefor;
(c) the quantum of edible oils imported during the last three years along with the import duties charged thereon, year-wise; and
(d) whether the yields of oilseeds of the farmers have been adversely affected due to exceedingly low import duty and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)
(a) As per the World Trade Organization (WTO) Rules, a Member has to notify the maximum rate of duty which can be levied on import of products unless the product has been notified as unbound. For the edible oils, the bound duty notified to WTO varies from product to product with some of them having the maximum bound duty of 300%. The detail of import tariff on edible oils being charged currently are as under:

Sr no	Edible Oil	Rate of duty	Date from which applicable
1	Crude Palm Oils	7.5%	23.9.2016
2	Refined Palm Oils	15%	23.9.2016
3	Crude Sunflower oil	12.5%	17.9.2015
4	Refined Sunflower oil	20%	17.9.2015
5	Soyabean oil (crude)	12.5%	17.9.2015
6	Soyabean oil (refined)	20%	17.9.2015
7	Crude Mustard/rapeseed/colza/canola	12.5%	17.9.2015
8	Refined Mustard/rapeseed/colza/canola oils	20%	17.9.2015
9	All other edible oils (Crude)	12.5%	17.9.2015
10	All other edible oils (Refined)	20%	17.9.2015

(b) to (d) The oilseeds production in the country has been adversely affected mainly because of lesser coverage due to delayed /deficient monsoon at the time of sowing and low productivity due to insufficient rains during the crop growing phase and untimely rains at maturity stage. As there is a gap between domestic production and demand for edible oils in the country, the shortfall is met through imports. The quantum of edible oils imported during the last three years along with the import duties charged thereon, year-wise is as under:

Year (Nov.-Oct)	Quantum of edible oils imported (in Lakh Tonnes)		Import duty during the year	
	Crude	Refined	Crude	Refined
2014-15	138.53		7.5% (w.e.f 24.12.2014)	15% (w.e.f 24.12.2014).
2015-16	148.50		12.5% (w.e.f 17.09.2015)	20.0% (w.e.f 17.09.2015)
2016-17 (Nov.16 to Jan,17)	33.95		7.5% (w.e.f 23.09.2016)	15.0% (w.e.f 23.09.2016)

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